8/21/67

Dear Shirley,

On issues other than this one I know nothing of Garrison's beliefs. As to his political associates, judge him as you did JFK. On this issue, I have found his doctrine essential my own. We have some differences, relating to fact. These the future will determine, as it will the differences we have between ourselves. Those general principles I have heard him enunciate, I share. When I was there there was a single thing on both our minds. The only informal chat we had was when Mark Lane was at dinner with us, and I was silent, for me.

I know nothing about the relations between him and Aynesworth. I know what he has said on TV about that writing and Newsweek. I agree with both. I continue to be interested in the Robertson stuff, which I either do not recall or dom not know.

I agree that Andrews is in danger, as the silent witness always it. His protection can come only from revelation of what he can say. Then he need fear only rengeances. If you heard the tape of his Scott interview you'd know that before the Garrison case was well known he said he knew the Mexicano and Clay Bertrand - and more.

There is no doubt in my mind that Garrison is the opposite of a racist and the opposite of a reactionary. What he has said of government, of the CIA and FBI, of the right-wing Cubans is indication of this.

I spent too long on Capitol Hill doing things I considered important to ever judge a politician by the company he keeps. Or his beliefs. I'd rather judge him by his active enemies. Garrison's are mine.

On this issue you may disagree with some of the things he does, as Sylvia does. Here you and she may be right or you may be underinformed. Only time will tell. My own interest is in getting this case to court as uncontaminated as possible, as soon as possible, and with Garrison as well prepared as possible. I agree that by my taste he has over-reacted to his opposition. I also do not face his necessities and those of his litigation and I do know something about what is being done to him that is not general knowledge. So I make a different judgement. What the FBI alone is doing I think justifies what he has said and, were I in his position, I believe I may have over-reacted, too.

But I am not and I haven't been - and I will not be - angry with you.

Sincerely,